

Three Keys to an Encounter with Jesus (Ruth 2:-13)

Proposition: I believe that in these first three verses are three keys to unlocking a way for anyone (saved or lost) to be placed in to a position for a head on encounter with Jesus Christ.

I. **A Present Lord** (Vs. 1)

A. A Lord of Accessibility (Vs. 1a)

B. A Lord of Abundance (Vs. 1b)

C. A Lord of Authority (Vs. 1c)

II. **A Perceived Lack** (Vs. 2)

A. A Hunger Perceived (Vs. 2a)

B. A Help Perceived (Vs. 2b)

B. A Hope Perceived (Vs. 2c)

III. **A Providential Leading** (Vs. 3)

A. God's Leading to a Place (Vs. 3a)

B. God's Leading to a Person (Vs. 3b)

Three Keys to An Encounter W/ Jesus (Ruth 1:3)

In a 1991 news letter, Dr James Delissen relayed his opportunity to speak with Soviet Dissident, China Bartush-ins-Kaya who had spent four years in labor camps a punishment for her Christian activities. President...

No matter where a person is physically they can have an encounter with Jesus Christ. Whether behind the curtain or in the hickel of the hubble belt, Each and every one of us can and need to have an encounter w/ Jesus Christ. We've been our focus recently a picture of a backslider christian getting right w/ God. But Ruth is a Maahitus a picture of the Lost sinner. She may now be in the right place but she has yet to meet the right person. Salvation is only by the person of Jesus. In our story Ruth has yet to meet Boaz. I believe that in these first three verses are 3 Keys to unlocking a way for any one saved or lost to put them in a position for a ^{encounter w/ Jesus} header.

I. A Present Lord - Vs 1

The first thing we must realize is that, Jesus, our Kinsmen redeemer is here, he is at hand. We see this in verse one when

a family relationship to a man named Boaz
A. A Lord of Accessibility - 1a He is a kinsman of the family of Elimelech Naomi was related to Boaz by marriage. Boaz is a type of the Lord Jesus in His accessibility. God the father who is spirit is so distant or foreign to us. But through the Lord Jesus we have one like us "He that... Jesus is our kinsman redeemer accessible to us."

B. A Lord of Abundance - 1b - Boaz was a man of abundant wealth and possessions. He was a man that had many servants working for him in the field. Who profited financially from the harvest. No matter the millions + billions in wealth that are touted by the wealthy of this world, none can match the untold treasures of abundant grace

C. A Lord of Authority - 1c The very name Boaz means "mighty man" or "in him is strength" Some suppose him to be mighty in the law or even to be a judge in Israel. Needless to say he was a man of authority. God has given Jesus a name above every name that at the name of Jesus... This was the man available to Ruth, to Roman ^{to follow} to law

II. A Perceived Lack - Vs 2 This is critical to our story. It doesn't matter if the Lord is available, accessible, abundant, and able if there is no perceived lack to drive the sinner to the

- 1) President Reagan heard of her plight and put pressure on Gorbachev to release her during their meeting in Reykjavik. She now lives with her husband in London and longs for the day she can return to her native land. After being raised in an atheist's home she found an old Slavic Bible when she was twenty-three. She taught herself to read it and discovered a personal relationship with Christ. Her faith was discovered by the KGB, who infiltrated the Russian Orthodox Church as phony priests, and she was sent to a labor camp. She refused to deny the Lord, so they tortured her. A tooth was drilled without anesthetic to test her tolerance for pain. She was placed in an unheated room at fifty degrees for five months and given only a cotton gown. She sat on the cold floor and was fed every other day. This immovable woman said, "Following Christ is not a very pragmatic thing to do. It doesn't bring you very many benefits in the Soviet Union."
- 2) *"He that in heaven had a Father but no mother, came to this earth and was born of a mother, but had no father. He became one of us, one with us, and one for us. By taking on Himself human flesh, he became related to us."*
- 3) ...of abundance owned by the Lord Jesus, by virtue of His creative power: Colossians 1:16-17 *For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.* "God owns the cattle on a thousand hills and all the taters in those hills."

1) ...that causes a man or a woman to go out and try to find that life giving bread.

2) Leviticus 19:9-10 And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest. And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I am the LORD your God.

3) ...fresh encounter you may have with Jesus Christ will not be because of how many chapters you read or how long your prayers are, it will be because of his unmerited undeserved favor shed in your direction. But you'll never encounter the grace of God until you realize that you are a needy person and if you don't encounter some one outside of your ability you will die for want of nourishment!

salvations. This is exactly what brought Ruth to ^{Boaz}
A. A Hunger Perceived ^{2a} We were
watching the Little House on the prairie
yesterday. Mr. Angle was out tilling the field
on Sunday. Mr. Angle flew all over him. He said

God ain't gonna plow the field for me. The
need of food and sustenance drove her to the field.
Remember no man seeks after God. But there is that
need to find deliverance from death that caused

B. A Help Perceived - 2b Some body
shared with her the law of Moses

Leviticus 19:9-10. ³ It is from the word
of God that help was found. The Law
of God pointed to where help could be found.
Do you want a fresh encounter w/ Jesus?

You can't in the living room w/ sneakers on. You
perceive hunger the go out to glean in field of God.

C. A Hope Perceived - The help of
Gods word pointed to the hope of
God's grace. Ruths hope is that the
eyes of someone greater than she might
look down upon her underserving case
and bestow upon her favor. Glory to
God, when I came to Jesus it was not for
reward, it was for grace. (May fresh encounter)

III. A Providential Leading - In
disciplining me a taught to circle Key
words in a verse and explore their meaning.
Well there ought to be 3 circles around the
word "hand". The word "hand" is an action or

fortune-chance. Bro Ed Baller - I have something

A. God's Leading to a Place - God is leading Ruth gleaming by gleaming to a field of grace. God is leading her onto a stage, where he is orchestrating moment by moment according to his will. I think back to the days before I was saved. The testimony of a teenage girl, the gospel truck found on a hotel night stand the desperate tears of emptiness and fear all there were bringing me to a place a place of encounter. Do you want a fresh encounter w/ him?

B. God's Leading to a Person - What is God doing? Bringing her simply to a place. No her salvation is not a place, it's a person. God is arranging things that she might encounter a man that will change her life forever. I love church, but church is not the answer. I love the bible and prayer and witnessing, but these in themselves are not the end all of the Christian experience. God wants to bring us to a person. This is Presidential leading only God can do this, but

IV. Closing - In 2004, at a camp meeting in Augusta, I had a fresh encounter w/ Jesus. In 2006 in my kitchen I had a fresh encounter w/ Jesus. The truth that brought Ruth to a head on collision w/ Boaz are the keys for us.

1) ...I have something very profound to all you that believe in luck:
blaaaaa.... To the writer it may have seemed by chance or luck,
but if you know any thing about this Bible at all you know that
God is in charge working things out to the counsel of his own
will.

2) ..can do this but he longs to do it. There is nothing that would
please him more than for you encounter His son time and time
again.